

19990328.qrp v01_n409.qrl.990328

Date: Sun, 28 Mar 1999 19:03:17 EST

From: qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU

To: "Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion" <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>

Subject: QRP-L digest 1409

QRP-L Digest 1409

Topics covered in this issue include:

- 1) [36731] Re: Aurora Sounds
by Chris Trask <ctrask@primenet.com>
- 2) [36732] CW offset (Re: 30M offset)
by Rick Sealey <rsealey@InfoAve.Net>
- 3) [36733] Traps???
- by Wayne Alexander <walexan@ipa.net>
- 4) [36734] Volume Correlations
by Jim Larsen AL7FS <al7fs@pobox.alaska.net>
- 5) [36735] Re: Aurora Sounds
by "Vincent Ferme" <vferme@sprint.ca>
- 6) [36736] FS: Fully-Loaded Ten-Tec Scout
by "Bruce Prior" <n7rr@hotmail.com>
- 7) [36737] Junk box converter for 6M...
by Mighty Mik <mitymik@hooked.net>
- 8) [36738] E-mail Address for the MFJ 90's Group???
- by James P Rybak <jrybak@mesastate.edu>
- 9) [36739] Re: WM-75
by Jim <w7ls@blarg.net>
- 10) [36740] QRP in the SSB Contest
by Bradford D Bilbrey <bigdawg74@juno.com>
- 11) [36741] Atlanticon Special Report--building contest winners
by PDouglas12@aol.com
- 12) [36742]
by "Craig LaBarge" <labarge@hotmail.com>
- 13) [36743] NorCal 20 AGC Modification
by David Fifield <fifield@pacbell.net>
- 14) [36744] Re:
by David Fifield <fifield@pacbell.net>
- 15) [36745] Re: WM-75
by Jim <w7ls@blarg.net>
- 16) [36746] Re: Good first kit
by "Frank G3YCC" <g3ycc@g3ycc.prestel.co.uk>
- 17) [36747] TRADE
by bkobie@webtv.net (patrick obrien)
- 18) [36748] NC-20 Help needed?
by KQ5U <kq5u@flash.net>
- 19) [36749] Core Banks Expedition

- by KG2L0@aol.com
- 20) [36750] Patcomm PC9000 ?
by hw.merz@t-online.de (Hanns W. Merz)
- 21) [36751] whump, thunk, help! (long, funny?)
by "Mark Hogan" <mhogan@email.msn.com>
- 22) [36752] Re: Junk box converter for 6M...
by Richard Rood <fcs@juno.com>
- 23) [36753] Front End Overload?
by John Bohnert <johnb@elmhurst.edu>
- 24) [36754] Re: CW offset (Re: 30M offset)
by "Steve Yates, AA5TB" <aa5tb@swbell.net>
- 25) [36755] Re: CERT Microsoft Word 97 macro virus alert
by Roger Hightower <n7kt@earthlink.net>
- 26) [36756] Re: Backpacking/QRP trip
by "Frank G3YCC" <g3ycc@g3ycc.prestel.co.uk>
- 27) [36757] 10 meters is open! PSK31
by applitech@mcg.net (Claton Cadmus)
- 28) [36758] QRPTTF
by Al Gritzmacher <ae2t@bigfoot.com>
- 29) [36759] Atlanticon
by Joseph Mikuckis <k3chp@erols.com>
- 30) [36760] Re: Front End Overload?
by Chris Trask <ctrask@primenet.com>
- 31) [36761] TFR Paddle construction
by Bob Edwards <w4ed@flash.net>
- 32) [36762] Atlanticon vs Antennas ala hotel window...
by Tom M <tjmc@erols.com>
- 33) [36763] NorCal 20 AGC Mod - Mod...
by David Fifield <fifield@pacbell.net>
- 34) [36764] Re: NC-20 Help needed?
by David Fifield <fifield@pacbell.net>
- 35) [36765] NC20 labeling and finish - biohazard!!
by sda <sda@bellsouth.net>
- 36) [36766] Key Base
by "John J. McDonough" <jjmcd@tm.net>
- 37) [36767] NC20 mods, AGC is now nice
by Gary L Surrency <gsurrency@juno.com>
- 38) [36768] For Trade: 2 OHR Explorer II's (40 & 30M)
by sda <sda@bellsouth.net>
- 39) [36769] Re: NC20 labeling and finish - biohazard!!
by olyellr@iglou.com
- 40) [36770] Re: Front End Overload?
by "Mike Rhodes" <weightdn@bright.net>
- 41) [36771] Atlanticon comments
by Mike Czuhajewski <wa8mcq@erols.com>
- 42) [36772] Atlanticon Diary and Billet Doux (long)
by PDouglas12@aol.com
- 43) [36773] Tuners: 949 vs 969

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QRP ARCI 9464

Email: ctrask@primenet.com
<http://www.primenet.com/~ctrask>

Graphics by Loek Frederiks

Date: Sat, 27 Mar 1999 20:10:09 -0500
From: Rick Sealey <rsealey@InfoAve.Net>
To: qrp-l@lehigh.edu
Subject: [36732] CW offset (Re: 30M offset)
Message-ID: <4.1.19990327114440.019c9d80@mail.infoave.net>
MIME-version: 1.0
Content-type: text/plain; charset="us-ascii"

I've been watching this thread since its beginning and am surprised at the relatively few authoritative responses to it. Though I feel Marshall's post was both well presented and well articulated, I am not surprised that it has managed to take a convoluted path and evolve into comments of the "CW offset/CW only" aspects of the 30M band. So, I considered since I haven't suffered any email reflector abuse recently, I'd offer these thoughts:

The convention for SSB on the ham bands, since I was first licensed (early sixties) and before, was for LSB below 10MHz and USB above 10MHz, a neutral spot in the HF spectrum as we had no amateur radio allocation there. So at 10MHz you could choose to use either USB or LSB, as long as you didn't transmit! (That's an attempt at humor for those of you are preparing your 30Meter-band-operation-in-the-sixties posting. Put that keyboard down!) In my years in ham radio, I don't recall hearing anyone discuss a convention for CW sideband offset. My assumption has always been that it is lower sideband. Here's why.

Every transceiver I have owned and otherwise used since the mid seventies (I used separate Rcvr and Xmtr before that) until about 5 years or so ago, used lower sideband for the CW offset. This can be confirmed by hearing the pitch of the received signal increase as you tune your VFO higher in frequency. All of the ICOM, Yaesu, Kenwood, Emtech, SWL, and Heath transceivers I own and have previously owned, do this. As does my Sony ICF-2010 portable.

However, in the last few years, some of the big commercial vendors have added a selectable CW offset feature; my Alinco DX70T does this. It's quite worthwhile as it allows you select an opposite sideband on receive to

possibly eliminate QRM. Obviously, the Tx carrier remains parked in one spot or you would chasing each other all over the band. However, by my own convention, I always start out with a CW-L, lower sideband offset (the radio defaults to this, by the way), and only switch if necessary. For those of you not familiar, this is in reference to CW only and has absolutely nothing to do with SSB. It is a different offset and a different mode!

So, based on my on-the-air experience, and the "blue-million" dollars worth of equipment I have bought over the years, I cannot agree with the contention that the CW offset follows that recommended of SSB. My opinion is that generally, the offset is "lower" on all HF bands. If I'm missing the boat, help me out - throw me an oar.

\$00.01999 worth (you get what you pay for)
(any resemblance this message has to an authoritative response is purely coincidental)

Rick - W4SEA
High Point, NC

Date: Sat, 27 Mar 1999 19:15:05 -0600
From: Wayne Alexander <walexan@ipa.net>
To: qrp-l@lehigh.edu
Subject: [36733] Traps???
Message-ID: <199903280115.TAA23145@ns3.ipa.net>
Mime-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset="iso-8859-1"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: quoted-printable
Content-Transfer-Encoding: quoted-printable

Just was wondering if any one has any info on building traps for the warc bands? I would like to make a 12 and 17 meter beam. Does any one have a program that will help in this matter? Thanks for any info on this. Please reply direct to me so it doesn't clog up the list. Thanks and have a great day.

73,
N=D8EA
Wayne
Willard, MO
FISTS # 4907
QRP-L # 1058
Web Page <http://www.qsl.net/n0ea>

Date: Sat, 27 Mar 1999 16:16:31 -0900
From: Jim Larsen AL7FS <al7fs@pobox.alaska.net>
To: "qrp-l@lehigh.edu" <qrp-l@lehigh.edu>
Subject: [36734] Volume Correlations
Message-ID: <36FD82EF.201E21AC@pobox.alaska.net>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Let's see. Volume of QRP-L email is near zero today...Atlanticon is in full swing today....hmmmm....there may be a correlation here, folks. Active on QRP-L = Active in real life? Maybe so. Or maybe the Atlanticon folks just have a lot to say. This is too ponderous for my mind on this sunny day in Anchorage. I think the snow has even started to melt. It is only 3-4 feet high along the driveway now so there is hope. The backyard, on the sunny side is down to about two feet except where the moose was sleeping the other day and that is less.

Random ramblings from the Northland.

Have a nice weekend everyone.

--

73, Jim, AL7FS
<http://www.qsl.net/al7fs/>
<mailto:al7fs@qsl.net>
Anchorage, Alaska

Date: Sat, 27 Mar 1999 20:19:34 -0500
From: "Vincent Ferme" <vferme@sprint.ca>
To: "Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion" <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [36735] Re: Aurora Sounds
Message-ID: <000701be78b9\$0b2353a0\$d73067d1@vince>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
charset="iso-8859-1"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

There is a new book by Joe Carr called RadioScience Observing that covers a good deal of VLF, LF, whistler and etc. It also includes a CD with natural phenomena sounds.

Another good source of info is Mike Mideke's web page, he also manufactures VLF receivers. I don't have the URL but it should be easy to find it with

the help of a search engine.

73 de Vince, VE3VFN.

Date: Sat, 27 Mar 1999 17:41:30 PST
From: "Bruce Prior" <n7rr@hotmail.com>
To: qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU, qrp-canada@lists.gpfn.sk.ca
Subject: [36736] FS: Fully-Loaded Ten-Tec Scout
Message-ID: <19990328014131.1031.qmail@hotmail.com>
Mime-Version: 1.0
Content-type: text/plain

Gang --

I use it every day. It's the extra rig that's in my study, a different room from the official hamshack. However, a K2 is on the way, so my ham radio budget says it has to go.

My Ten-Tec Scout 555 is well-used and in excellent working order, including ALL band modules from 160-m through 10-m, including WARC bands. That's a total of nine band modules. The only mods are a toroid added to the B+ power input for extra filtering, four small holes drilled on the top of the cabinet to secure a key for mobile operation and two velcro pads glued to the top cabinet. A mobile bracket and manual is also included. The Scout is a straightforward workhorse, with many more years of life in it. Although I use it as principally for SSB, the built-in keyer is very handy for portable and mobile CW work.

You may have it for \$550 plus shipping, by whatever shipping means you prefer. Please call me at (360) 332-6046 if you have more questions, or e-mail me at n7rr@hotmail.com .

72, Bruce Prior N7RR / VE7HR in Blaine, WA
Get Your Private, Free Email at <http://www.hotmail.com>

Date: Sat, 27 Mar 1999 17:49:07 -0800
From: Mighty Mik <mitymik@hooked.net>
To: "qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU" <qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [36737] Junk box converter for 6M...
Message-ID: <36FD8A75.32B90181@hooked.net>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii; x-mac-type="54455854"; x-mac-

creator="4D4F5353"

Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

has anyone here built one? I did...but i can't seem to determine if it's working or not. For those not familiar with it...it is a NE602, a 40MHz oscillator, and a 10.7MHz 'green core' transformer for the output (and a few other parts...see the Jan. 97 QST for details)

It's a 50MHz in, 10MHz out convertor.

I built it with the parts i had on hand...i believe the article calls for a slightly different transformer...and yesterday it seemed to work...i went all the way up to TV ch2 and was able to copy FM sound at what seemed like the right place.

However, today, I can't seem to do that trick. I needed a signal of some kind to see if there was any activity, so i took a 25.175 MHz computer oscillator i had, and wired it up to a 5V supply, and just put a 60" piece of wire on it for a 1/4 wave antenna. (It's under 100mW)

The big rig (an Icom) hears the fundamental with an outside vertical, so i know that part works. If i put it next to the convertor, i can get the 2nd harmonic at 50.350, and was able to peak the output transformer...but from across the room, it won't pick up the signal.

hints? (besides get a signal generator ;)) Did the 602 go south? (it has 5V, and seems to have signal at pin 6 for the osc)

Date: Sat, 27 Mar 1999 20:12:29 -0700 (MST)

From: James P Rybak <jrybak@mesastate.edu>

To: qrp-l@lehigh.edu

Subject: [36738] E-mail Address for the MFJ 90's Group???

Message-ID: <Pine.OSF.3.91.990327201029.8665B-1000000@mesa7.mesa.colorado.edu>

MIME-Version: 1.0

Content-Type: TEXT/PLAIN; charset=US-ASCII

Can anyone tell me if there is an e-mail address for the MFJ 90's group?
I would like to get in touch with that group to inquire about joining.

Thank.

Jim Rybak W0KSD

Date: Sat, 27 Mar 1999 19:34:15 -0800
From: Jim <w7ls@blarg.net>
To: launerb@crl.com, qrp-1@lehigh.edu
Subject: [36739] Re: WM-75
Message-ID: <36FDA337.5EB18D44@blarg.net>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

I heartily agree, Bill. I have one and am quite pleased with it. It could use an on/off switch, but I'm being picky..... :-)
Jim W7LS

"William H. Launer" wrote:

> Gang,
>
> I just completed my Small Wonder Lab WM-75 yesterday, and am well pleased
> with it. The first 2 contacts were with stations in Northern Illinois
> (about 150 miles) yesterday afternoon which is very good for daytime 75
> meter qrp ssb. Last night, I answered a couple of contest CQ's and the
> calling stations came right back - one was in TX and the other was in IL.
> I don't think either of the testers realized I was qrp. My antenna is a
> 100 ft. end fed wire, with a 100 ft. counterpoise on the ground. The
> antenna is tuned with a home-brewed copy of an MFJ-989.
>
> It's a nice kit to build, but a magnifier lamp is almost a necessity (for
> those of us that have eyes older than our ideas). The optional enclosure
> kit is worth the extra cost, because it includes all of the controls and
> the parts for an audio frequency readout, similar to the NC-20.
>
> All in all, a fun kit.
>
> 72/73, Bill
>
> Bill Launer
> St. Charles, MO
> launerb@crl.com
> wb0cld@wb0cld.ampr.org [44.46.66.25]
> qrp-1 #279 qrp arc1 #3551
> Grid Square EM48RT

Date: Sat, 27 Mar 1999 20:33:57 -0700
From: Bradford D Bilbrey <bigdawg74@juno.com>
To: qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU
Subject: [36740] QRP in the SSB Contest
Message-ID: <19990327.203357.4406.0.bigdawg74@juno.com>

Hey QRP Folks:

I just put 2 hours into the SSB contest, QRP of course and worked 40 stations on 10w including

LU9HO, T33RD, JA7BJS, ZW5B, ZX0ZF, FM5BH, EA8ZS, X07X, PP5ID, KL1V, CN8WW, T42R, 7J1YAJ

I don't even have any idea where most of these stations are, but lots of fun especially because I limited my output to less than 10watts. Guess I'll keep the old SSB rig.

72's
Brad "Bigdawg" Bilbrey
KE7MU, QRP-L#1912, OHR-400
"QRP" More for Less

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Get completely free e-mail from Juno at <http://www.juno.com/getjuno.html>
or call Juno at (800) 654-JUNO [654-5866]

Date: Sat, 27 Mar 1999 22:53:21 EST
From: PDouglas12@aol.com
To: qrp-l@lehigh.edu
Cc: n5ib@juno.com
Subject: [36741] Atlanticon Special Report--building contest winners
Message-ID: <2aff1bf7.36fda7b1@aol.com>
Mime-Version: 1.0
Content-type: text/plain; charset=US-ASCII
Content-transfer-encoding: 7bit
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Gang,

It's now 10:40 pm and the crowd is breaking up in the hospitality suite, except for the die hards, perhaps who will stay on a while longer. I'm writing this on the laptop.

First the important news: ATTENTION N5IB, JIM GIAMMANCO! You've takent first

prize in the kit/homebrew category here at Atlanticon, and you've won a transceiver kit (I think it's an Emtech NW80.) Congrats! Hope you get this, and I am CCing to your email address you kindly put on your article!

As to the other winners, there was a tie for first in the homebrew, non-kit class. N8QOH, Jim won for his brilliant (big and heavy too!) adaptation of the W7ZOI spectrum analyzer. And Jim had it set up and running for the judging, showing a spectrum. And, well, there's no real way to say this without sounding un-humble. Please forgive me, guys, but I won the other first prize for the prototype 2N2/40 I built from Jim Kortge's K8IQY plans. That ought to motivate even more of you to try your hand at this all-homebrew rig that is actually in the printing presses right now in the next issue of QRPp. I have it on good authority the issue is days from mailing. Oh, I won a 44 magnum! N8QOH won the Norcal 20, if I get things around the right way. And guys, there were a lot of beautiful items on that judging table, so congrats to all on the craftsmanship. No doubt, I had the ugliest project up there!

I'll give you guys a report on Atlanticon tomorrow, when I get home and things calm down. It has been smashing, though.

72,

Preston WJ2V

Date: Sat, 27 Mar 1999 19:53:59 PST
From: "Craig LaBarge" <labarge@hotmail.com>
To: qrp-l@lehigh.edu
Message-ID: <19990328035402.57328.qmail@hotmail.com>
Mime-Version: 1.0
Content-type: text/plain

I'm finally getting around to building my Norcal 20. I have a question, though, about one of the parts. According to the manual, Item #65 is described as a 0.1uF axial capacitor marked as "0.1uF (A1, M0, 74 in tiny characters)." The parts I have are marked "104." The quantities match (37), so I think they're the same part. Just wanted to get a second opinion before I solder 37 of 'em in. :-)

73, Craig WB3GCK
Get Your Private, Free Email at <http://www.hotmail.com>

Date: Sat, 27 Mar 1999 21:03:05 -0800
From: David Fifield <fifield@pacbell.net>

To: Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion <qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU>, GQRP Reflector
<GQRP@onelist.com>
Subject: [36743] NorCal 20 AGC Modification
Message-ID: <36FDB809.D536986@pacbell.net>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

As all you NC20 builders will have discovered by now, the AGC action is not that good - someone aptly coined the phrase "the baseball bat approach" (who was that?) - the AGC would absolutely clobber a signal then take ages to recover. Also, the AGC wasn't doing a very good job of regulating the RX audio level over a wide range of input signal strengths.

The reason for all this was that I was rushed into adding AGC to the design at the last minute and simply ran out of time to do a proper job on it. However, for the past couple of months on and off, I have been working away at improving the AGC response and getting it to where it is **nice** and not something you swear at everytime you tune through a loud signal!

You'll all be glad to hear that I think I have succeeded in making the AGC **very** smooth acting and such that the audio level is now nicely controlled over a very wide input signal level range. No "baseball bat" action anywhere to be heard!

The mod is as follows:

- 1) Remove and discard the following components:
R19, R20, C20, D9, D19, D20, D21 and C65.

(put them in your junk box for future experiments)

- 2) Put a wire link where D9 was fitted.
- 3) Change R29 to 3.9K (was 2.2K).
- 4) Change R60 to 2.2M (was 4.7M).
- 5) Change C63 to 0.47uF (was 1uF).
- 6) Fit a new 2.2K resistor under the PCB from the junction of T4 and U4 pin2 to the AGC2 signal at R41. If you solder the resistor at the point where the wire for T4 comes through the PCB to the point where R41 comes through the PCB, you should be able to fit the resistor horizontally with almost

no excess wire at either end (nice short leads). I will draw a picture of this later and add it to the Red Hot Radio website at <http://www.redhotradio.com>

7. Fit a new 680 Ohm resistor in C65's position on the PCB.
8. With your digital multimeter, measure the voltage at pin 2 of U4. With no signal input to the RX, adjust VR5 for exactly 1.4V at U4, pin 2.

That's it! Simple eh? What this does is to remove the double loop AGC altogether. There is now only one loop. The AGC voltage for U4 is now derived from the AGC voltage generator's output through a simple voltage divider. The D9 PIN diode attenuator does not have a significant attenuating effect on the design and so I have eliminated it, improving the RX front-end performance as a consequence. The net result of this change is a much more controlled AGC loop with less "gain" than before, but with a much wider range (to be measured soon). Suffice to say, the audio output on my prototype does not vary significantly with RF inputs up to +10dBm. The AGC starts acting at an input level of about -100dBm. My ears feel a lot safer now when I put the headphones on to tune around the band!

Please let me have your feedback on this mod asap as I'd like to include it in the commercial version of the NC20 too.

Thanks es 72,
Dave Fifield, AD6A

Date: Sat, 27 Mar 1999 21:06:49 -0800
From: David Fifield <fifield@pacbell.net>
To: labarge@hotmail.com
Cc: Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion <qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [36744] Re:
Message-ID: <36FDB8E9.A010CBB3@pacbell.net>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Craig,

You are correct - the parts marked "104" are indeed the 0.1uF caps. When I wrote the manual, the parts I had from Doug were marked as per the manual, then I guess he changed supplier before shipping the kits!

Please let me know if you have any more questions about the NC20.

72, Dave Fifield, AD6A

Craig LaBarge wrote:

>
> I'm finally getting around to building my Norcal 20. I have a question,
> though, about one of the parts. According to the manual, Item #65 is
> described as a 0.1uF axial capacitor marked as "0.1uF (A1, M0, 74 in
> tiny characters)." The parts I have are marked "104." The quantities
> match (37), so I think they're the same part. Just wanted to get a
> second opinion before I solder 37 of 'em in. :-)
>
> 73, Craig WB3GCK
> Get Your Private, Free Email at <http://www.hotmail.com>

Date: Sat, 27 Mar 1999 23:04:57 -0800
From: Jim <w7ls@blarg.net>
To: "William H. Launer" <launerb@crl.com>, qrp-1@lehigh.edu
Subject: [36745] Re: WM-75
Message-ID: <36FDD498.615903CC@blarg.net>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

I agree, again! It does need a tune switch. How else does one adjust the tuner?
Ok, I know about a tuner-tuner, or a noise bridge to tune for a null at 50 ohms,
but with the AGC always enabled, I had a tough time ever finding the null. It can
be done, but it takes a long time.

Neat little rig. I use camcorder batteries with mine. I think I'll take your
advice and mount a couple of switches on the back panel. Not much room on the
front.

73 de Jim, W7LS

"William H. Launer" wrote:

> Jim,
>
> >I heartily agree, Bill. I have one and am quite pleased with it. It could use
> >an on/off switch, but I'm being picky..... :-)
>
> That will be my first mod - a miniature toggle switch on the back. Maybe
> one also for shorting the test plug to facilitate antenna tuning.
>

> I've been having fun working the contest stations tonight, too. Only
> missed a few that I tried - a couple of Canadians in the bunch, too.
>
> 72/73, Bill
>
> Bill Launer
> St. Charles, MO
> launerb@crl.com
> wb0cld@wb0cld.ampr.org [44.46.66.25]
> qrp-l #279 qrp arco #3551
> Grid Square EM48RT

Date: Sat, 27 Mar 1999 10:23:38 -0000
From: "Frank G3YCC" <g3ycc@g3ycc.prestel.co.uk>
To: <KU4YP@aol.com>, "Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion" <qrp-l@lehigh.edu>
Subject: [36746] Re: Good first kit
Message-ID: <000001be7916\$5f781820\$a7e8b094@prsat0x1>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
 charset="iso-8859-1"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

You might find my site of use to you. There are FAQ's on which kit etc. Take
a look and best wishes.

.....
Frank G3YCC G QRP 042, G QRP Sales Officer.
QRP web page <http://www.homeusers.prestel.co.uk/g3ycc/>

Date: Sun, 28 Mar 1999 09:22:25 -0500 (EST)
From: bkobie@webtv.net (patrick obrien)
To: QRP-L@LEHIGH.EDU
Subject: [36747] TRADE
Message-ID: <12516-36FE3B21-222@mailtod-142.iap.bryant.webtv.net>
Content-Disposition: Inline
Content-Type: Text/Plain; Charset=US-ASCII
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7Bit
MIME-Version: 1.0 (WebTV)
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7Bit

trade mint norcal 40.....

for
mfj qrp xcvr 40, or 30 mtrs
qsl k8len/pat

Date: Sun, 28 Mar 1999 08:03:34 -0600
From: KQ5U <kq5u@flash.net>
To: qrp-l@lehigh.edu
Subject: [36748] NC-20 Help needed?
Message-ID: <36FE36B6.1494A97D@flash.net>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

I have been trying to get this issue resolved and have not been successful. It is now time to ask for help/ideas.

I finished section 14 (AGC) and the receiver will not mute in the transmit mode. The voltage at test point "S" will drop about 0.75v to 4.75v and that is it (it should go to zero).

All of the voltages check except for those on Q13. They are as follows: Rx E= 5.54, B= 6.17, C= 12.95 and Tx E= 4.75, B= 5.46,

C= 12.95. On transmit the voltages should be E= 0.3, B= 0.9 C= 13.4. My power source is 7 AH battery 12V.

I have changed out Q10 - 13 and Q21. Also U9 checks out with the correct voltages on both transmit and receive. I have also checked for solder bridges and cold solder joints by resoldering and de-fluxing. I'm just out of ideas and short on experience.

So, HELP!

KQ5U
Terry
Spring, TX

Date: Sun, 28 Mar 1999 09:57:17 EST
From: KG2L0@aol.com

To: qrp-1@lehigh.edu
Subject: [36749] Core Banks Expedition
Message-ID: <cb7b2fdc.36fe434d@aol.com>
Mime-Version: 1.0
Content-type: text/plain; charset=US-ASCII
Content-transfer-encoding: 7bit
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Hello All,
Just worked John Paul WQ4RP,1400z on 7.040. The group will only be there for another hour or so before they have to catch the ferry for the mainland.
72,
KG2LO, Roland

Date: Sun, 28 Mar 1999 17:07:44 +0200
From: hw.merz@t-online.de (Hanns W. Merz)
To: qrp-1@lehigh.edu
Subject: [36750] Patcomm PC9000 ?
Message-ID: <m10RHA8-0003EXC@fwd14.btx.dtag.de>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=ISO-8859-1
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 8BIT
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 8BIT

Has anybody heard about the "PC9000" QRP trcvr from PATCOMM?

Visited their homepage today and found a nice picture with an interesting description of a new good looking qrp trcvr and the comment:
"Will be in stock soon, check this web site in a few days".

But it seems the site was not updated since July '98! So I suppose the project was dropped or what's the matter with this firm?

72,
Hanns, DK9NL

Date: Sun, 28 Mar 1999 07:36:17 -0600
From: "Mark Hogan" <mhogan@email.msn.com>
To: "Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion" <qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [36751] whump, thunk, help! (long, funny?)

Message-ID: <003c01be7920\$4ae5a170\$6ae60181@mhogan-ws>

Ok all

The day was cruddo I took the NC paddle kit (yea the one I begged for on the list) out of the box, fit it all, carefully adjusted the bearings, got it all working.

Where did I leave that buffing wheel?

On to three stores, first two had the wheels no compound. Got all the necessary sanding and buffing parts at the last store.

Several hours later I've got a flat smooth clean base. Man the gun blue took great, base looks like my '45 slide!

On to toe brass.

Got it all looking great. First time I've ever used different wheels for the different buffing compounds.

Last wheel and the real brite stuff. on to the last two parts, those pesky contact posts, WHUMP, ding ding...where did that go? AHHHHHHHHHH

Twenty minutes alter I find the thing on the bench behind the grinder. Couldn't see the forest through the trees!

Ok now I clean the compound off my hands, on to the dit post. its looking great except for the little nick, (oh yea the "little nick) on the dot post took a while to get out, I spared you guys that!

Whump, thunk BOING, (no not the boing!),ding! Where did that ding come from?

Well there you have it

I've got the cleanest garage in Broken Arrow, OK and the best looking Single contact Iambic keyer around!

Short of going to my local machine shop and paying big bucks for a contact post anyone got any ideas on how to get one?

I dont have a drill press, although it would look good in that clean garage!

Mark Hogan

N50BC

G-QRP 4972 QRP-L 1887 AR QRP 246

SST-40/SPEED-X BUG FT-847/Vibro Keyer (was gonna be a NC Paddle)

bet ya didn't know a bug could go so slow!

Date: Sun, 28 Mar 1999 10:41:49 EST

From: Richard Rood <fcsww@juno.com>

To: mitymik@hooked.net

Cc: qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU
Subject: [36752] Re: Junk box converter for 6M...
Message-ID: <19990328.104133.5351.0.fcs@juno.com>

On Sat, 27 Mar 1999 17:49:07 -0800 Mighty Mik <mitymik@hooked.net>
writes:
<snip>
>but i can't seem to determine if
>it's
>working or not.

If you've got a portable telephone around,
disconnect the phone line and you will have a
good "signal generator." Tune around 47
to 49 MHz. Talk into it!

Good luck,

dick,w2scf

You don't need to buy Internet access to use free Internet e-mail.
Get completely free e-mail from Juno at <http://www.juno.com/getjuno.html>
or call Juno at (800) 654-JUNO [654-5866]

Date: Sun, 28 Mar 1999 11:07:44 -0600 (CST)
From: John Bohnert <johnb@elmhurst.edu>
To: Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion <qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [36753] Front End Overload?
Message-ID: <Pine.SV4.3.96.990328104406.8036A-100000@elmhcx9.elmhurst.edu>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: TEXT/PLAIN; charset=US-ASCII

Recently I have been bothered with what I interpret as front end overload of my Omni V. There is an AM radio station broadcasting on 1530 KHZ that I can copy very clearly on 20m (unhappily around 14.058 with crud through 14.060). Bands through 10 M are affected, but with reduced strength in signal. I have not bothered to find any traces on 40M (there is none in the CW portion of the band!) I have lived at this QTH for 13 years and have had the same tower, antenna, rig, cable configuration, etc for the last six years or so. The radio station has been present for at least 30 years.

The second observation is that when the interference is greatest from the

AM station I also have a strong ('S5-6') continuous buzz which is continuous across the band. The problem is most severe during 'daylight' hours. I have not made careful observations during evening hours due to my work schedule, but I have the impression that this problem 'disappears.' I recently worked the T30R and T33RD expedition using 4W from my OmniV and did not notice the interference.

I would appreciate a few pointers to help me approach this problem in a systematic fashion. TNX!

72 N9KW John QRP-L 1257 NORCAL

Date: Sun, 28 Mar 1999 11:12:11 -0600
From: "Steve Yates, AA5TB" <aa5tb@swbell.net>
To: <rsealey@InfoAve.Net>, "Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion" <qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [36754] Re: CW offset (Re: 30M offset)
Message-ID: <005501be793e\$1f7a6200\$1e37a497@aa5tb>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
charset="iso-8859-1"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Rick,

I agree with you.

When on CW I don't like to use terms such as USB and LSB since they are really meaningless. It is simply the direction in which one chooses to offset the receiver to obtain a useable beat note.

The USB/LSB conventions are for SSB only. On CW it is irrelevant unless one is working cross mode (CW working a SSB station). If one properly zero beats their transmitter to the station they're working it doesn't matter what sideband they use to receive. Use the one that offers the least QRM. My old Kenwood TS-130V uses "USB" for CW receive no matter what band I'm on (sometimes a pain).

I know that some rigs may not indicate the actual transmit carrier frequency when on CW and one must be aware of where they are actually transmitting (read the manual). When answering a CW CQ, if one zero beats the station they are calling they won't be "chasing each other all over the band" even when selecting various receive offsets.

No matter what it appears, it should be remembered that the two different selections of "USB" and "LSB" when on CW are receiver offsets only. Some rigs may require the transmitter's frequency to be readjusted to maintain zero beat after the receive offset is changed. If the transceiver is operated properly, which offset one prefers to use effects his receive only (which QRM he hears). No one else will ever know, as long as the transmitters remain at zero beat or close to it.

73,
Steve Yates
AA5TB
Fort Worth, TX
<http://home.swbell.net/aa5tb>
aa5tb@swbell.net

Date: Sun, 28 Mar 1999 10:35:21 +0000
From: Roger Hightower <n7kt@earthlink.net>
To: Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [36755] Re: CERT Microsoft Word 97 macro virus alert
Message-ID: <36FE05E9.A01696BA@earthlink.net>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

K5JS posted this alert, and it's one to watch for. The macro can really mess up the e-mail system.

I NEVER open any attachment to e-mail that I have not asked for. If I don't know the sender personally, I just delete the message. So far I've been luck, and even dodged the Happy99 bullet.

You should probably cut this out and tape it to your monitor:

DON'T SEND ATTACHMENTS - DON'T OPEN ATTACHMENTS

--
72/73, de Roger, N7KT - QRP-L #62 - Zombie #006 - Mesa, AZ

Date: Sun, 28 Mar 1999 14:16:38 +0100
From: "Frank G3YCC" <g3ycc@g3ycc.prestel.co.uk>

To: <aa5yx@juno.com>, "Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion" <qrp-l@lehigh.edu>
Subject: [36756] Re: Backpacking/QRP trip
Message-ID: <000201be7946\$b556f880\$1ae9b094@prsat0x1>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
charset="iso-8859-1"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

I would be happy to add any reports or pictures of back packing trips to my web site, if possible.

Have a good trip

.....

Frank G3YCC G QRP 042, G QRP Sales Officer.
QRP web page <http://www.homeusers.prestel.co.uk/g3ycc/>

Date: Sun, 28 Mar 1999 12:21:19 -0600
From: applitech@mcg.net (Claton Cadmus)
To: "PSK" <psk@n2ty.org>, "QRP-1" <qrp-l@lehigh.edu>
Subject: [36757] 10 meters is open! PSK31
Message-ID: <053201be7947\$e3a78c80\$a10a5e2c@groucho>

I'm located in Minneapolis and just heard ssb stations from Florida, California, Virgin Islands, Cuba and South America for the wpx(?) contest on 10 meters. The band is open.

I'm calling psk31 cq on 28.120 and looking for takers. Lets have some PSK31 fun on 10. Come and join me please!

73 de KA0GKC Claton Cadmus
cla@mcg.net
MNQRP #1
Minnesota QRP'ers we're looking for you!
Email me or visit this page <http://www.qsl.net/mnqrp>

Date: Sun, 28 Mar 1999 13:33:25 -0500
From: Al Gritzmacher <ae2t@bigfoot.com>
To: Internet QRP List <qrp-l@lehigh.edu>

Subject: [36758] QRPTTF
Message-ID: <2.2.32.19990328183325.006c9ad8@localnet.com>
Mime-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset="us-ascii"

While we're getting into the spirit of QRPTTF, check out
<http://hamgate1.sunyerie.edu/~lara/images/dinky2a.gif> (or
<http://hamgate1.sunyerie.edu/~lara/links.html#QRP> if you're interested in
where it came from) Might be a nice logo or QSL image for the event!

I'm planning to be operating from somewhere along the Niagara River for a
NY/VE3 border mult. Canada is closer than the nearest Taco Bell!

72,

Al AE2T
Lockport "Western" NY

Date: Sun, 28 Mar 1999 09:58:16 -0500
From: Joseph Mikuckis <k3chp@erols.com>
To: qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU
Subject: [36759] Atlanticon
Message-ID: <36FE4388.289D@erols.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Atlanticon was a hit and is now part of QRP history! I managed to get
my Zombie badge and even play with the \$5000.00 paddle! Many, many
thanks to George and NJ QRP Club for making it possible.

73 de Joe, K3CHP
Riverdale, MD

Date: Sun, 28 Mar 1999 11:58:49 -0700 (MST)
From: Chris Trask <ctrask@primenet.com>
To: John Bohnert <johnb@elmhurst.edu>
Cc: Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion <qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [36760] Re: Front End Overload?
Message-ID: <Pine.BSI.3.96.990328115702.25256A-1000000@usr06.primenet.com>

MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: TEXT/PLAIN; charset=US-ASCII

On Sun, 28 Mar 1999, John Bohnert wrote:

> Recently I have been bothered with what I interpret as front end overload
> of my Omni V. There is an AM radio station broadcasting on 1530 KHZ that
> I can copy very clearly on 20m (unhappily around 14.058 with crud through
> 14.060). Bands through 10 M are affected, but with reduced strength in
> signal.
>

John,

What you need is a simple high-pass filter with a cutoff frequency
of around, say, 3MHz and which will give you about 60dB of attenuation
1t 1.6MHz and below. There are plenty of design formulae running around
to do this, and making one is a snap.

```

      /-----\
     /  What's all this  \
    / extinct stuff, anyhow? \
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```

Circuit Design for the
RF Impaired

Chris Trask / N7ZWY
Principal Engineer
ATG Design Services
P.O. Box 25240
Tempe, Arizona 85285-5240

Technical Editor,
QRP Quarterly
QRP ARCI 9464

Email: ctrask@primenet.com
<http://www.primenet.com/~ctrask>

Graphics by Loek Frederiks

Date: Sun, 28 Mar 1999 14:12:26 -0500
From: Bob Edwards <w4ed@flash.net>
To: Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion <qrp-l@lehigh.edu>
Subject: [36761] TFR Paddle construction
Message-ID: <36FE7F1A.64C7DA3A@flash.net>

MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Finished taking Camcorder pictures and actually built another TFR paddle yesterday. Today I added some text and placed small versions of each image on the www page below. Each full size image is available via a "click-on-link" line. So to those few that asked about the details, here it is, and sri took so long. There should be enough info to build one. The plastic paddle material is what I spent a lot of time finding. Tried several samples, a fellow ham at work can attest, before settling on this one. It was a point of humor several times over. :) I have limited quantities available, and would be glad to send some for a SASE, two stamps. Email first, pse. While this design is a single paddle, I did make a double. The double paddle was simpler to build, fwiw...

http://www.qsl.net/w4ed/rbe_k2.htm

For ARS Spartan Sprinters, it weighs in at 1 1/2 ounce.

Welcome any feedback...

--

Bob 72/73	/
Z'# 114	/
	/ \
http://www.qsl.net/w4ed	/ / E \
W4ED nr Atlanta @EM73wt	/_ /____ __\
...."QRP", more from less....	[\--=====~/

~~~~~

-----

Date: Sun, 28 Mar 1999 14:28:25 -0500  
From: Tom M <tjmc@erols.com>  
To: QRP-L <qrp-l@lehigh.edu>  
Subject: [36762] Atlanticon vs Antennas ala hotel window...  
Message-ID: <36FE82D9.5C8D09@erols.com>  
MIME-Version: 1.0  
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii  
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit  
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Atlanticon was great, sorry to all that missed it.

To the nameless group on the fifth floor... (what was that, ... room

504??)

Three things to remember....

- 1) Dont use large gauge PINK FLORESCENT wire ... it doesn't hide well against a light brown building
- 2) Don't drop yr wire out till you look to make sure someone isn't hanging out of the 4th floor window
- 3) Never steal someone's tree when they claim it first.

I told you guys I'd post it!!! Three hits with some wet spaghetti wire.

all best  
Tom aa2vk

-----  
Date: Sun, 28 Mar 1999 11:47:04 -0800  
From: David Fifield <fifield@pacbell.net>  
To: Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>, GQRP Reflector <GQRP@onelist.com>  
Subject: [36763] NorCal 20 AGC Mod - Mod...  
Message-ID: <36FE8738.65E2E2FF@pacbell.net>  
MIME-version: 1.0  
Content-type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii  
Content-transfer-encoding: 7bit  
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Hi Folks,

A small mod to the mod that will save you some money!

Instead of changing C63 to 0.47uF, leave C63 alone (1uF tantalum). Change R60 to 1MOhm (originally was 4.7MOhm, then mod said to use 2.2MOhm). This will keep the time constant the same and cost much less!

72, Dave Fifield, AD6A  
<http://www.redhotradio.com>

-----  
Date: Sun, 28 Mar 1999 11:53:10 -0800  
From: David Fifield <fifield@pacbell.net>

To: kq5u@flash.net  
Cc: Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion <qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU>  
Subject: [36764] Re: NC-20 Help needed?  
Message-ID: <36FE88A6.3A90E058@pacbell.net>  
MIME-version: 1.0  
Content-type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii  
Content-transfer-encoding: 7bit  
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Terry,

It sounds like you have D17 in backwards (or D17 is dead).  
It could also be that you have the wrong value in for R67 (maybe  
you have 220K instead of 2200hms here?).

Let me know how you get on - I'll work with you till we solve  
this one!

72, Dave Fifield, AD6A

KQ5U wrote:

>  
> I have been trying to get this issue resolved and have not been  
> successful. It is now time to ask for help/ideas.  
>  
> I finished section 14 (AGC) and the receiver will not mute in the  
> transmit mode. The voltage at test point "S" will drop about 0.75v to  
> 4.75v and  
> that is it (it should go to zero).  
>  
> All of the voltages check except for those on Q13. They  
> are as follows: Rx E= 5.54, B= 6.17, C= 12.95 and Tx E= 4.75, B= 5.46,  
>  
> C= 12.95. On transmit the voltages should be E= 0.3, B= 0.9 C= 13.4.  
> My power source is 7 AH battery 12V.  
>  
> I have changed out Q10 - 13 and Q21. Also U9 checks out with the  
> correct voltages on both transmit and receive. I have also checked for  
> solder bridges and cold solder joints by resoldering and de-fluxing.  
> I'm just out of ideas and short  
> on experience.  
>  
> So, HELP!  
>  
> KQ5U  
> Terry  
> Spring, TX

-----  
Date: Sun, 28 Mar 1999 14:01:27 -0600  
From: sda <sda@bellsouth.net>  
To: qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU  
Subject: [36765] NC20 labeling and finish - biohazard!!  
Message-ID: <199903282001.PAA07492@mail3.lig.bellsouth.net>  
Mime-Version: 1.0  
Content-Type: text/plain; charset="us-ascii"

Finally got things straight with tx offset alignment.  
Everything is FB now. Replaced a few of the parts  
with suggested replacements and got it ticking right.

Decided to finish the exterior in a simplistic but nice  
way:

1. Used #150 fine Aluminum Oxide sandpaper and went  
over the whole exterior, top and bottom plates, and  
front and rear panels. Did this pretty lightly, just to  
clean it up and take out a few little scratches.
2. Used #00 fine steel wool and "polished" all four  
pieces real thoroughly, including edges and corners  
and interior of the plates.
3. Washed them off with soap and water. "Borrowed"  
my wife's favorite silk nightgown =) and polished them  
all real well again till it was super shiney.
4. Used high quality "Chartpak Velvet Touch Lettering"  
rub-on transfer letters (FONT= friz quadrata) that I got  
from a local art supply shop, and labeled all the knobs  
and buttons, etc.
5. Used "Krylon Crystal Clear Acrylic Coating" spray  
and gave each of the 4 pieces about 5 coats over a  
12 hour period. Let dry, and reassemble.

Looks absolutely fantastic. Oh, yeah, just for effect,  
I put a cool flourescent orange "BIOHAZARD" sticker  
on the top of the case, and sealed it in under the  
Krylon spray. I have had the sticker for a while, and  
wanted to use it for something cool. Well, my friends  
always ask, "What \*IS\* that?" when they see my  
Norcal 40a, and the little OHR rigs I have. I figured  
the biohazard sticker will stir them up a bit ;-)

Peace, and ya'll have a good Sunday.  
(Will be doing Fifield's AGC mods next weekend)

72/73,

Todd Atkins, K4MSW  
Baton Rouge, Louisiana  
<http://www.qsl.net/k4msw>

-----  
Date: Sun, 28 Mar 1999 15:01:44 -0500  
From: "John J. McDonough" <jjmcd@tm.net>  
To: "Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion" <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>  
Subject: [36766] Key Base  
Message-ID: <002701be7956\$005d1080\$010044c0@mdp23b>  
MIME-Version: 1.0  
Content-Type: text/plain;  
    charset="iso-8859-1"  
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit  
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Hey guys - I just discovered something

Today I was at the local Lowe's store, and they had strips of marble, 3/8" thick by 4" wide by 36" long with beveled edges for under \$2!

Cut down to 6" lengths this makes the perfect base for that J-37 you got from Surplus Electronic Parts last month.

72/73 de WB8RCR <http://users.tm.net/jjmcd/>  
didileydadidah QRP-L #1446 Code Warriors #35

-----  
Date: Sun, 28 Mar 1999 13:36:42 -0700  
From: Gary L Surrency <gsurrency@juno.com>

To: qrp-1@lehigh.edu  
Subject: [36767] NC20 mods, AGC is now nice  
Message-ID: <19990328.133642.-4186333.0.gsurrency@juno.com>  
MIME-Version: 1.0  
Content-Type: text/plain  
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit  
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Dave and all,

I just did the AGC mod, and it does work much better. I only had a 0.33 uF cap for C63, instead of the specified 0.47 uF, but I like slightly faster AGC anyway. One thing to mention, though. The AGC set voltage \*does\* drift as stated in the manual, so when you do the mod you'll want to set it to 1.40 volts initially at pin 2 of U4 when you power the rig up the first time. Then, check the voltage again after the rig warms up for 15-20 minutes and reset the AGC pot so that there is 1.40 volts then. It does drift a bit, and you'll lose some sensistivity as a result if you don't re-check it. Nice work on coming up with this mod, too. It only took me a half-hour or so to do. Thanks much. My ears thank you too. \*8^)

I had a nice QSO today with WA6NAE, Dwight. He was also using his NC20, and I have to say his sounds the best of any NC20's I have heard. I thought he might be using a new K2 until he told me he was on the NC20. And, he was using a battery too. It sounds very, very, good. No chirp, sweet CW note, and clean keying. Good work Dwight.

OK, I've gotta go and do the AGC mod on the other NC20, as I've only done it to the prototype so far so I could compare the two.

72 everyone,

Gary Surrency AB7MY QRP-L #571 Chandler, AZ (near Phoenix)

---

You don't need to buy Internet access to use free Internet e-mail.  
Get completely free e-mail from Juno at <http://www.juno.com/getjuno.html>  
or call Juno at (800) 654-JUNO [654-5866]

---

Date: Sun, 28 Mar 1999 14:46:04 -0600  
From: sda <sda@bellsouth.net>  
To: qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU  
Subject: [36768] For Trade: 2 OHR Explorer II's (40 & 30M)  
Message-ID: <199903282045.PAA03742@mail3.lig.bellsouth.net>  
Mime-Version: 1.0

Content-Type: text/plain; charset="us-ascii"

I have 2 OHR Explorer II's for trade. I acquired these rigs (already built) as part of a trade, and would like to trade them both for an unbuilt rig of comparable value that is 30M or 80M. Both explorers are in good condition, and \ have been aligned and tested. I have the manuals for both. The 40 meter one has some drift, and probably needs a mod to take care of this. I am trading them because I have this need to have built all of my rigs myself. =)

I am especially wanting:

1. Unbuilt Wilderness SST (30M)
2. Unbuilt 44 Magnum ;-)
3. Unbuilt SW30+ or SW80+
4. Unbuilt White Mountain WM-20 or WM-75 w/ enclosure kit
5. Unbuilt LDG AT-11 QRP Automatic Antenna Tuner w/ enclosure
6. Unbuilt OHR WM-2 QRP Wattmeter Kit
7. Unbuilt OHR 100a Transceiver (30M)
8. Unbuilt OHR DD-1 Frequency Counter/ Digital Dial Kit

Email me if interested.

Thanks and 72/73,

Todd Atkins, K4MSW  
Baton Rouge, Louisiana  
<http://www.qsl.net/k4msw>

-----  
Date: Sun, 28 Mar 1999 15:55:53 -0500  
From: olyellr@iglou.com  
To: sda@bellsouth.net, "Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion" <qrp-1@lehigh.edu>  
Subject: [36769] Re: NC20 labeling and finish - biohazard!!  
Message-ID: <3.0.5.32.19990328155553.0095bd10@pop.iglou.com>  
Mime-Version: 1.0

Content-Type: text/plain; charset="us-ascii"

At 02:01 PM 3/28/99 -0600, sda wrote:

>  
>3. Washed them off with soap and water. "Borrowed"  
>my wife's favorite silk nightgown =) and polished them  
>all real well again till it was super shiney.  
>

Some guys will stoop to the lowest depths.

You rascal, you! ;-)

72,  
Mike L.

=====  
de AF4LQ  
FISTS, ARCI, QRP-L  
99% CW OP....for the pure JOY of it!  
<http://members.iglou.com/olyellr/>

-----  
Date: Sun, 28 Mar 1999 15:53:33 -0500  
From: "Mike Rhodes" <weightdn@bright.net>  
To: "Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion" <qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU>  
Subject: [36770] Re: Front End Overload?  
Message-ID: <049401be795d\$2cb60b80\$03000004@weightdn>  
MIME-Version: 1.0  
Content-Type: text/plain;  
charset="iso-8859-1"  
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit  
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

John,

When was the last time you checked your feedline and its connections to your antennas? You mention that the problem appears on 20m and up so wonder if you are using a tribander. If so, you might have an oxidized connection that is playing diode for you. Also, check your ground connection for the same problem.

Good luck in finding the problem.

72 & DX de



Mike / W8DN

-----  
Date: Sun, 28 Mar 1999 16:00:09 -0500  
From: Mike Czuhajewski <wa8mcq@erols.com>  
To: QRP forum <qrp-l@lehigh.edu>  
Cc: George Heron <n2apb@erols.com>  
Subject: [36771] Atlanticon comments  
Message-ID: <36FE9859.538A@erols.com>  
MIME-Version: 1.0  
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii  
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit  
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Ah, Atlanticon was good, very good! Lots of fun, good talks, and the meeting room for the combined QRP show & tell and building contest was stuffed.

Unfortunately I'm suffering from the lingering flu and my brain was at half capacity most of the time I was there; hope I didn't ramble too much and made at least some sense when I talked :-). I got in a bit late on Saturday, caught the last half of L. B. Cebik's talk and then went over to the hamfest to wander the tailgating a while. Unfortunately I then had to leave for a few hours for a work-related emergency, but unlike my 21 year active duty Air Force career, the company pays me time and a half plus mileage and other expenses for leaving Atlanticon :-). (In the military, you might get a word of thanks if you're lucky!)

I got back for the evening's goings-on, and it was a blast, just like Dayton and Pacificon, and the crowd in the room was similar to both. The number of rigs on the tables for show and for sale and for judging was about the same, too--absolutely no shortage of QRPers or QRP things! And some of the things on the judging table were pretty neat.

The QRP vendors had great things, too. The Magnum 44 prototype circuit boards are lookin' good, Dave Bensons digital SW (DDS VFO) is a fine looking rig and should be a real winner when it's released, and I got a chance to see Steve "Melt Solder" Weber's DDS VFO as well. (I think it has the same DDS chip that NN1G uses.) QRP building has really come a long way in the last few years!

Today in one of the hamfest buildings I talked to someone manning the table for the Historical Electronics Museum in Baltimore, near the airport. (Hint: this would be an excellent pre-Atlanticon field trip for next year, although it's a bit of a drive.) He's a bit of a QRP'er and

commented that it seemed like the QRP presence at the hamfest was down. But it wasn't down, and if anything, it was way up--we just QSY'ed a bit and concentrated it in one spot, that's all :-)

When I arrived Saturday morning I gave N2SMH some things to add to the pile of door prizes, a set of 5 die cast aluminum boxes and a G3RJV six Pack circuit board. (That's not the one I got at Pacificon; I gave that one away to a QRP'er there who missed out when the number of attendees exceeded the number of boards.) When they had the drawing for the boxes, someone accused me of getting them across the street at the hamfest. Not true! But I did go back Sunday and buy 8 more to replace the 5 I gave away :-)

I know from experience that the topic of missing one day of a two-day hamfest for a QRP forum is too much of a hot button and politically incorrect thing to mention again on qrp-l--guaranteed flame bait! But I must say this: those of you who were not at the hamfest on Saturday and only made it Sunday, please don't judge the Timonium hamfest by what you saw! Sunday was absolutely the PITS! Attendance was down severely from Saturday, both in buyers and tailgaters. But if you saw it Sunday and thought it was bad, Sunday last year was ten or twenty times worse! Today was chilly with threat of rain, but last year was rain, period.

As with any two day hamfest, it's not unusual for one day to be worse than the other, and you can never predict which will be the best. And if you only saw Timonium for the first time this Sunday, trust me, it was a horrible showing and this is usually a MUCH better event! NJ QRP made a very good decision to tag along with this event--it is indeed one of the major ones on this coast. (There are two hamfests at Timonium; this one is actually the ARRL MD state convention, while the one in July is an ordinary hamfest and decidedly smaller, but still well worth going to.)

BTW, two people have told me that the call of the person who came from California (and who was in the infamous 42 Hour Drive to Dayton) was AC6UV, Gody.

The showing at Atlanticon for a first time event was excellent, and it even drew people from some substantial distances. Having an excellent lineup of speakers didn't hurt, either :-). The basic ideas and format have been well proven and honed at FIDM/Dayton and Pacificon over many years, people know what to expect from these things, and they WILL come! My thanks again to NJ QRP for starting up what promises to become the Dayton and Pacificon of the east coast!

--

73 and Queue Our Pea de WA8MCQ      wa8mcq@erols.com

-----  
Date: Sun, 28 Mar 1999 16:17:28 EST  
From: PDouglas12@aol.com  
To: QRP-L@lehigh.edu  
Subject: [36772] Atlanticon Diary and Billet Doux (long)  
Message-ID: <33e436ae.36fe9c68@aol.com>  
Mime-Version: 1.0  
Content-type: text/plain; charset=US-ASCII  
Content-transfer-encoding: 7bit  
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Gang,

Atlanticon was not exactly all it was cracked up to be. It was much much more!

First, the Timonium ham/computerfest is just huge:

Folks who've been to Dayton will have some basis for comparison, as the hamfest itself is a substantial subset of Dayton. Huge indoor and outdoor markets. The indoor part consisted of five warehouse sized buildings and more. Actually the "Cow Palace" is three consecutive hangars filled to the walls with exhibits, sellers, and, well, stuff. A lot is computer related, but that's ok with me. Software and hardware in such profusion that after a while, you can't focus. And radios, .lots of them. One fella' was selling three built OHR 100's on three different bands for \$100 each (probably negotiable, but I didn't try.) One thing I didn't get, though was the lady in charge of the entrance. She checked our shoes. She made sure we had sneakers on, mentioning something about the Cow Palace. This gave Tom W2RFU and me reason to consider the possible hazards on the floors of a place with the name Cow Palace. Though we looked carefully, and checked our shoes frequently, the Cow Palace has concrete floors and no evidence of cows that I could see.

The Atlanticon symposium:

Of course, it was torture deciding between the talks and the Timonium fest across the street, but we did have to miss some of the talks. While Timonium is a two day market, Sunday was out for us. We had to be back in NY by midday.

As to the talks, they were all terrific, and the written materials were great. The work done by George, Joe, Dean, and that whole bunch from NJ QRP was tremendous, and from my perspective, flawless. This was a prestigious faculty of lecturers. The whole event came off perfectly.

The Holiday Inn is a big, well managed, clean and thoroughly comfortable hotel. We ate dinner Friday night and again Saturday night across the street in the Steak and Ale (very good steaks and salad bar). Saturday we had a tight table for seven, and dinner was a rolic.

The Saturday evening event was the show and tell, with the building contest at

nine. As all know by now (I posted it last night from my hotel room--ain't laptops amazing?), there were three winners instead of two. I wish to thank Chuck Adams for providing the means to make a tie possible by donating an additional kit for the winners. He is a good guy, and I guess that's why I like him. Thanks, Chuck.

I almost didn't enter my 2N2/40, as I figured it is already reasonably well known, but I did have over 100 hours in it (maybe twice that, who knows?) and I was urged by my friends to put it up. I am honored by the selection, and it did make the weekend that much sweeter. I do recall remarking to Tom W2RFU (before the building contest) that it really doesn't get much better than this. Thanks guys for the party.

Would I come back? I sure would. Note, that the Timonium fairgrounds are a reasonable walk from the hotel, in sharp contrast to the parking/transportation hassles in Dayton. The 'fest is big, and you can likely find something you came to find. Yes, I'll be back, especially if George et al do it again!

Preston WJ2V

-----  
Date: Sun, 28 Mar 1999 16:46:24 -0500  
From: Henry Freedenberg <henryf@quartz.gly.fsu.edu>  
To: qrp-l@lehigh.edu  
Subject: [36773] Tuners: 949 vs 969  
Message-ID: <36FEA330.3493150F@gly.fsu.edu>  
MIME-Version: 1.0  
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii  
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit  
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

I was asked to spec out a new marine hf rig for the ofc this week. The plan is to go with the Icom M710.

Most of the anticipated (official) communication will be in the 100-500 mile range.

I think that lots of time will be spent on the 2.5Mhz and 4.5 Mhz marine frequencies..

Basically the radio will be used for marine work when the boats are busy. When the boats are not busy, the low end of 20 will beckon.

Much of the day to day radio operation will be handled by a secretary whose technical aptitude is suspect. The AT-130 automatic tuner sold by Icom costs \$500 and is mostly good for loading up whips. I decided to go with a manual tuner. I originally thought about buying the current iteration of the MFJ 949. Now I am thinking that it would probably be

better to get the 969 which has a roller inductor and turns counter. I feel that the taps on the 949 inductor are probably optimized for amateur frequencies. The roller inductor on the 969 should give me a better chance at a decent match on marine frequencies. Also, I will be better able to get setting repeatability with the roller counter. I will probably be using either a long wire (zepp) or a loaded dipole of some sort located 10'-15' above the building roof. Don't yet know what kind of SWR will have to be matched. Arcing within the unit will be a definite bummer. Xmit power is limited, by law, to 150 W PEP.

I am open to comments/suggestions.

Henry

-----  
Date: Sun, 28 Mar 1999 16:51:58 EST  
From: SKIPNC90@aol.com  
To: qrp-1@lehigh.edu  
Subject: [36774] FS: Norcal paddle kit  
Message-ID: <33014cd.36fea47e@aol.com>  
Mime-Version: 1.0  
Content-type: text/plain; charset=US-ASCII  
Content-transfer-encoding: 7bit  
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

I have an unassembled Norcal Paddle kit for sale. I have only checked to see that all the parts are in the kit. I just have not gotten around to building this kit. I will sell it for the original \$30 plus \$5 shipping and handling(\$35 total) to US or \$10 additonal for DX.

73, Skip Davis NC90  
skipnc90@aol.com

-----  
Date: Sun, 28 Mar 1999 16:47:18 -0600  
From: "Kelly Ellison" <kelman@dialnet.net>  
To: <qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU>  
Subject: [36775] Trade for QRP Related items.  
Message-ID: <199903282246.QAA13588@dialnet.net>  
MIME-Version: 1.0  
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=ISO-8859-1

Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit  
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Hello,

Have a few goodies that are not seeing much action in the shack. Would like to entertain trades for QRP related items.

Acquired a spare AEA MM-3 Memory Keyer. This is a very nice memory keyer/beacon/ contest keyer/ and DX QSO Simulator. Paddles not included. Also, Have late model QRP++ and Companion to trade for HF Equipment. Last item is a HTX-100 10 meter SSB and CW rig with Mobile Mount and Mic. All of these are in great condition. Please Email direct for more details. Thanks.

Kelly Ellison - WB0WQS - Aurora Missouri QRP-L #702, QRPARCI # 9854

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Date: Sun, 28 Mar 1999 14:55:36 -0800 (PST)  
From: Brad Bradfield <b\_bradfield@yahoo.com>  
To: qrp-l@lehigh.edu  
Subject: [36776] SLV ROD SOURCE  
Message-ID: <19990328225536.20440.rocketmail@web222.mail.yahoo.com>  
MIME-Version: 1.0  
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii

Hello from Texas y'all - -

For anyone still wanting to build an SLV, but who hasn't found a source of the 20 foot pole, I was in the newly opened Outdoor World Bass Pro Shop in Grapevine, TX (Dallas burb) today, and they have the 20 foot Black Widow for \$20.88 plus tax. Don't know what shipping and handling would be for you folks away from Dallas, but their web page is <[www.basspro.com](http://www.basspro.com)>, from which you should be able to find out shipping, place an order, etc.

72's es 73's,

Brad, W5CGH

===

Brad Bradfield, PE      W5CGH  
(ex WB0CGH)

Systems Engineer  
Raytheon Systems Company

Real men talk with their fingers!!

QRP-L #377                      SMIRK #4906  
ARS        #72                      Austin QRP Club    #e

-----  
Do You Yahoo!?

Get your free @yahoo.com address at <http://mail.yahoo.com>

-----  
Date: Sun, 28 Mar 1999 17:58:41 -0500  
From: hamjoel@juno.com  
To: qrp-l@lehigh.edu  
Subject: [36777] QRPTTF WHERE AM I  
Message-ID: <19990328.180042.-277873.1.hamjoel@juno.com>  
MIME-Version: 1.0  
Content-Type: text/plain  
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit  
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

HI, AND HELLO EVERYONE:

While waiting for a ruling on "how close" is "close enough" to a state line for the qrpttf contest, party...

I hired some surveyers and went state border hunting.... well I had these guys mark the spot where three state lines meet.... nice pipe in the ground..... inside the pipe I put the base of a vertical ant... ;and placed a level on each side of the vertical (four) to make it perfectly straight...

question ;; in which state is my antenna???

I put my rig in one state, my power supply in another, and my operating chair in the third state...

question??? in which state am I operating????

I also put up a back up antenna... A loop antenna.... with the loop equidistant from the border line of each state... "the pipe"

In which state is my antenna...

Now getting technical, I could put my radio over the pipe marking the three state lines and actually be in three states at once.... I could then (Using a magnetic mount and guy wires) mount a vertical on top of my radio... actually on top of a dot marking the state line... which would put the vertical, along ;with the radio, (which is bigger than a dot) in all three states at once...

I think I have an overdose of logic and a loss of common sense and the spirit of things here.... perfectionists have a hard life...

joel  
in maine  
wondering how big the point of intersecting lines need be....

-----  
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or call Juno at (800) 654-JUNO [654-5866]

-----  
Date: Sun, 28 Mar 1999 18:44:31 -0500  
From: "Ron Polityka" <wb3aal@talon.net>  
To: "QRP-L" <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>  
Subject: [36778] Atlanticon 1999  
Message-ID: <009d01be7974\$ede30d00\$195445c6@ronaldpo>  
MIME-Version: 1.0  
Content-Type: text/plain;  
charset="iso-8859-1"  
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit  
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Hello Group,

Well if you missed Atlanticon 1999, you might have missed the event of the year on the East Coast.

I am now suffering from Atlanticon 1999 withdrawal's. All the talks were great and informative. I had a blast!!

Count Down to Atlanticon 2000 is set at . . . . Mark

364 Days, 20 minutes & 30 seconds. See You There!!

Great job NJ QRP Club, give yourself a big pat on the back!

72 & 73  
Good DXing  
Ron de WB3AAL  
wb3aal@talon.net

vvv Eastern PA QRP Club Web Page vvv  
[http://www.kpsnet.com/wb3aal/Start\\_Page.htm](http://www.kpsnet.com/wb3aal/Start_Page.htm)  
Eastern PA QRP Club Call ---> N3EPA

Eastern PA QRP # 1 ARCI QRP # 5318



NJ-QRP # 179  
KL7 QRP # 309

G-QRP # 3031

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End of QRP-L Digest 1409

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